

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 02179 231308 Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 IO-12 DPW-01 OMB-01 AID-20 TRSE-00

RSR-01 /137 W

----- 001753

O R 231205 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3225

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL FRANCE

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

DIRNSA FT CG MEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC HAWAII

CDRUSMACV

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

DEPCDR 7/13 AF

CDR 7 TH RRFS RAMASUN THAI

CDR 7 ACCS KORAT

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP

CHSPECATS BKK

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PAGE 02 VIENTI 02179 231308 Z

56 SOW NKP
432 TRW UDORN
CDR JCRC NKP
ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS

ARMA/ AIRA SVK LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2179
E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - MARCH 23

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; MACV FOR COMMAND CENTER AND J3 08;
7/13 AF, 432 TRW AND 56 SOW FOR DO/ DI; MACTHAI FOR J2
AND PAO.

REF: VIENTIANE 2153

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY- ACTIVITY CONTINUED AT LOW
LEVEL 21-22 MARCH. ONLY MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURRED 17 KM
NORTHWEST OF BOUAM LONG WHERE ON EARLY MORNING 22 MARCH
TWO ENEMY COMPANIES ATTACKED FOUR FRIENDLY POSITIONS.
ELSEWHERE, THERE WERE NINE MINOR SCATTERED CLASHES AND
SHELLINGS. RLAF FLEW ONLY NINE T-28 AND TWO AC-47 GUNSHIP
SORTIES, ALL IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS IN CONTACT. POLITICAL.
DEADLINE FOR FORMATION OF NEW PGNU PASSES WITHOUT
SIGNIFICANT NEW DEVELOPMENTS. ANNUAL LAO ARMY DAY
OBSERVED IN AUSTERE MANNER. SIX JOURNALISTS RETURN
FROM SAM NEUA. END SUMMARY.

1. SECTION I - CEASEFIRE OBSERVANCE

A. MR I: THERE WAS ONE MINOR 15- MINUTE CLASH OF UNKNOWN
ORIGIN 43 KM SOUTHEAST OF PAK BENG IN SAYABOURY PROVINCE
WHICH TOOK PLACE MORNING OF 21 MARCH (ONE FRIENDLY WIA).
RLAF FLEW NO SORTIES.

B. MR II: ONE MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURRED EVENING 22 MARCH
(22 1100 Z) WHEN TWO ENEMY COMPANIES, SUPPORTED BY MORTAR
AND HEAVY MACHINE GUN FIRE, ATTACKED FOUR FRIENDLY
POSITIONS (VIC UG 155 995), 17 KM NORTHWEST OF BOUAM
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PAGE 03 VIENTI 02179 231308 Z

LONG (RESULTS NOT YET KNOWN). THERE WERE TWO MINOR ENEMY

SHELLINGS

OF FRIENDLY POSITIONS ON THE MORNING OF 22 MARCH: FOUR KM NORTH AND THREE KM WEST OF THA VIANG (POSITIONS HELD, NO CASUALTIES). RLAF FLEW NO SORTIES.

C. MR III: IN AN RLG- INITIATED MINOR INCIDENT, FRIENDLY COMPANY SUPPORTED BY ARTILLERY FIRE ATTACKED ENEMY 21 KM SOUTHEAST OF THAKHEK ON MORNING OF 22 MARCH; AFTER TWO HOURS, ENEMY WITHDREW WITH NO CASUALTIES REPORTED FOR EITHER SIDE. ACCORDING TO A LATE REPORT, A MINOR CLASH LASTING 15 MINUTES OCCURRED MORNING 21 MARCH ABOUT 58 KMS SOUTHEAST OF KENGKOK (NO KNOW CASUALTIES). UPDATE INDICATES THAT MINOR ENEMY SHELLING ON NIGHT OF 21 MARCH, 17 KMS NORTHEAST OF DONG HENE (REFTTEL), CAUSED NO CASUALTIES. RLAF FLEW THREE T-28 SORTIES, ALL IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS IN CONTACT.

D. MR IV: FRIENDLY ELEMENTS ABOUT 30-35 KMS NORTHEAST OF KHONG SEDONE SUSTAINED FOUR MINOR CLASH AND SHELLING ATTACKS 21-22 MARCH (FOUR FRIENDS KIA, SIX WIA; FOUR ENEMY KIA, 10 WIA). ONE MINOR CLASH OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN OCCURRED 13 KM SOUTHEAST OF KHONG SEDONE ON AFTERNOON 21 MARCH AND AFTER 30 MINUTES FRIENDS WITHDREW WITH TWO MIA. RLAF FLEW SIX T-28 SORTIES AND TWO AC-47 GUNSHIP SORTIES, ALL IN SUPPORT OF FRIENDLY ELEMENTS IN CONTACT NORTHEAST OF KHONG SEDONE.

E.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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